

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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DEPT ALSO PASS DOT FOR RAMUNDO

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS:EAIR, UR
SUBJECT: CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY VISIT

REF: (A) MOSCOW 13852, (B) STATE 135131

1. IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY'S REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT
TO DISCUSS TIMING AND FEASIBILITY OF VISIT TO MOSCOW
OF FAA CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY OFFICIAL (REF A),
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
DEPUTY CHIEF KHRABROV, IN A LETTER DATED JUNE 20,
STATES THAT MINCIVAIR THINKS IT ADVISABLE TO CONSIDER
FAA AIR SECURITY REQUIREMENTS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE
US-SOVIET SUBGROUP ON "SECURITY OF PASSENGERS, AIRCRAFT
AND CARGO" OF THE JOINT WORKING GROUP ON CIVIL AVIATION
(PROBLEM 05.0407 OF THE US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT).
HE GIVES AS BASIS FOR THIS SUGGESTION THE FACT THAT AT THE
4TH SESSION OF THE US-SOVIET WORKING GROUP IN SEPTEMBER
1977, IT WAS AGREED TO EXCHANGE DETAILED INFORMATION ON
QUESTIONS OF (A) CIVIL AVIATION HIJACKING, BLACKMAIL AND
SABOTAGE INCIDENTS; (B) AIR CARRIER AND AIRPORT SECURITY
MEASURES; AND (C) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN DETECTION
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EQUIPMENT PERTAINING TO PASSENGER/AIRCRAFT SAFETY,
PARTICULARLY IN EXPLOSIVE DETECTION. KHRABROV ALSO
STATES THAT MINCIVAIR WOULD BE WILLING TO RECEIVE A US
DELEGATION ON FAA AIR SECURITY REQUIREMENTS IN AUGUST OR
SEPTEMBER 1978. (RUSSIAN ORIGINAL BEING POUCHED TO
EUR/SOV).

2. KHRABROV, HOWEVER, DOES NOT MAKE CLEAR WHETHER RECEPTION OF SUCH AN FAA DELEGATION WOULD REPLACE MEETING IF THE SUBGROUP ON "SECURITY OF PASSENGERS, AIRCRAFT AND CARGO," IN THIRD QUARTER OF 1978, AS AGREED BY THE US-SOVIET WORKING GROUP IN SEPTEMBER 1977, OR WHETHER IT WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO MEETING OF THE SUBGROUP.

3. KHRABROV ASKS THAT THE EMBASSY INFORM JAMES H. CARMICHAEL, CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN SIDE OF THE CIVIL AVIATION WORKING GROUP, AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AVIATION AFFAIRS, FAA, OF THIS SUGGESTION.

4. COMMENT: WE ASSUME DEPARTMENT AND FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION WILL WISH TO GIVE SOVIET PROPOSAL CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO ESTABLISH WHETHER IT WOULD SATISFY U.S. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS. PRESUMABLY, SAME ISSUE MAY HAVE ARISEN IN OTHER CASES. THERE IS, OF COURSE, NO "RIGHT" WE CAN ASSERT TO INSPECT AIRPORT SECURITY IN THE USSR, AND IF WE DO SO, WE MUST CLEARLY BE PREPARED TO GRANT SOVIETS THE SAME ACCESS AS THAT WE SEEK FROM THEM. PLACING INSPECTION UNDER AEGIS OF TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT UNDERSCORES MUTUAL NATURE OF THE ACTION AND PROBABLY MAKES IT EASIER TO SELL TO SOVIET LEADERSHIP. ON THE OTHER HAND, AN INSPECTION UNDER TERMS SUGGESTED BY THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION WOULD SEEM TO ESTABLISH A LINKAGE WITH THE FUNCTIONING OF THE SUBGROUP ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"SECURITY OF PASSENGERS, AIRCRAFT AND CARGO" WHICH MIGHT NOT INVARIABLY BE IN OUR INTEREST. TOON

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Message Attributes

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